UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

7703

(1303)

PAGE 01 300140Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 /058 W
------------------015339 3001522 /13

P 291900Z NOV 78
FM ARRS SCOTT AFB IL/DO
TO HQ USAF WASH DC/XOXXI
INFO HQ USAF WASH DC/XOOTA/XOORA/XOOXXW/XOOTF
HQ MAC SCOTT AFB IL/DOD
39ARRW EGLIN AFB FL/DO
AMCONSUL FORT DE FRANCE MARTINIQUE
RUEHC /SEC STATE WASH DC/PM/ISO
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

UNCLAS
SUBJ: ALLEGED AIRSPACE VIOLATION-MARTINIQUE.

(1) REF:
A. COMNAVFORCARIS ROOSEVELT ROADS PR, DTG 221900Z NOV 78 (NOTAL).
B. AF/XOXXI, DTG 271400Z, SAME SUBJ.
(2) REF A RETRANSMITTED AN AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE MESSAGE TO JCS. T MESSAGE STATED "THIS POST WAS NOTIFIED BY CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY THAT 3 DH-53 AND TWO C-130 ENTERED FRENCH AIRSPACE (MARTINIQUE) AT APPROXIMATELY 0745 HRS ON 22 NOV 78 WITHOUT PROPER CLEARANCE OR REQUEST THEREFORE."

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(3) OUR ORIGINAL FLIGHT PLAN FROM ROOSEVELT ROADS TO GUYANA WAS DIRECT, AVOIDING ANY LAND AREA; HOWEVER, H-53S OPERATE IN THE LOW ALTITUDE ENVIRONMENT, AND FOR SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS WE DIRECTED OUR ON SCENE RESCUE COMMANDER TO COORDINATE A ROUTE OF FLIGHT ALONG THE LESSER ANTILLES. THE ON SCENE COMMANDER PLANNED THE FLIGHT INTO MARTINIQUE AIRSPACE AND COORDINATED THE ICAO CLEARANCES WITH THE MILITARY REP COMNAV SAN JUAN CARRIBEAN FLIGHT PLANS. THIS INDIVIDUAL ASSISTED IN CLEARANCE PREPARATION IN THE SAME FORMAT AS ROUTINE NAVY FLIGHTS THROUGH THE AREA. FLIGHT PLANS WERE THEN COORDINATED WITH SAN JUAN AND PIARCO CENTERS AS WRITTEN PRIOR TO RELEASE OF AIRCRAFT FROM ROOSEVELT ROADS. SINCE THE RESCUE MISSION COMMANDER HAD NOT RECEIVED GUIDANCE ON THE "NATURE" OF THE MISSION, THE REMARK "RESCUE MISSION, US CODE ONE" WAS NOT INCLUDED ON THE ORIGINAL FLIGHT PLAN. SUBSEQUENTLY, HQ USAF DECLARED THIS WAS A "RESCUE" MISSION, WHICH MEANS OUR FLIGHT HAD BLANKET DIP CLEARANCE IAW THE FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE, AND PROPER REMARKS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN ALL FOLLOW-ON FLIGHT PLANS.
4. DURING THE ACTUAL FLIGHT, RADIO CONTACT WITH MARTINIQUE CENTER WAS ESTABLISHED 100NM FROM THE ISLAND. THE FLIGHT WAS ASKED IF AIRCRAFT WERE ARMED. ANSWER: NEGATIVE. WE PRESUME THE QUESTION WAS TO

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DETERMINE IF THIS WAS A TACTICAL FLIGHT. THE CENTER CLEARED THE AIRCRAFT THROUGH THE AREA. AIRCREW LOGS HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND INDICATE ALL TRANSMISSIONS WERE PROFESSIONAL, CRISP, AND CORDIAL. THE CENTER DID NOT INDICATE THERE WERE ANY PROBLEMS WITH CLEARANCES WHEN THE AIRCRAFT WENT THROUGH THEIR AIRSPACE.
5. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR AIRCREWS AND PEOPLE AT ROOSEVELT ROADS TOOK ALL PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY TO INSURE THE FLIGHT WAS PROPERLY CLEARED AND THAT THEY DID NOT VIOLATE ANY DIRECTIVES OR PROCEDURES. RECOMMEND THAT AMCONSULS AND EMBASSYS IN AND AROUND AN OPERATING AREA OF A JTF BE PROVIDED INFO COPIES OF JCS AND USAF TASKING AND EXECUTION ORDERS.
6. THIS IS A MAC/ARRS COORDINATED MESSAGE.

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